FluBytes



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MDCH RECOMMENDATION FOR INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION

As a reminder, the Michigan Department of Community Health recommends that providers begin to offer influenza vaccination as soon as vaccine becomes available (typically in August) and continue to vaccinate until the vaccine expires (typically June 30). The full recommendation can be found here.

INFLUENZA-RELATED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- A study shows that <u>international travel</u>, especially to subtropical countries, contributes to importation and spread of influenza worldwide.
- Researchers at the University of Pennsylvania have developed a <u>new gene therapy</u> that elicits broad protection in mice and ferrets against various influenza strains.
- A Canadian study was done to investigate the usefulness of <u>pharmacy-based</u> influenza surveillance using volume of antiviral prescriptions.
- Researchers in France have shown that <u>interleukin-22</u> in mice reduces lung inflammation and protects against secondary bacterial infection.

INFLUENZA-RELATED NEWS ARTICLES

- 'Mystery illness' in Alabama a mix of flu, cold, and pneumonia
- FDA: <u>Potential "universal" flu vaccine developed and</u> tested at FDA
- Taiwan thanks U.S. for help in H7N9 vaccine efforts

H5N1 AVIAN INFLUENZA

News articles

 NEPAL DETAILS 32 H5N1 OUTBREAKS REPORTED SINCE MID-APRIL

FLU WEBSITES

www.michigan.gov/flu www.cdc.gov/flu www.flu.gov http://vaccine.healthmap.org/

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AVIAN INFLUENZA A (H7N9)

In the past week, the World Health Organization (WHO) reported one additional human infection with avian influenza A (H7N9) in China. The decrease in reported cases is thought to result from live poultry market closures as well as the seasonal pattern of avian influenza viruses waning in summer months. To date, approximately 25% of cases have died. The Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention is providing weekly case count updates. Five clusters have been reported, but there is still no sustained human-to-human transmission at this time. There is currently no recommendation against travel to China.

Related Articles:

- NEJM: Serologic Study for H7N9 among High-Risk Groups in China
 - Researchers looked at blood samples from poultry workers collected in 2012 and found no evidence to suggest mild or asymptomatic human infections were occurring at that time.
- The Lancet: Adverse clinical outcome caused by H7N9, sustained viral shedding, and emergence of antiviral resistance
- NEJM: Live-Animal Markets and H7N9 Infection
- CIDRAP: Experts mull H7N9 bird market findings, assess rapid tests
- Australian scientists developed blood test to confirm H7N9 in ducks, poultry

The following resources about H7N9 are available:

- The U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) is posting updated information on the situation here.
 - Selected H7N9 Publications and Resources
- Situation updates are being posted by:
 - o WHO
 - o Chinese Center for Disease Control & Prevention
 - European Centers for Disease Prevention & Control
 - Center for Infectious Disease Research & Policy

NATIONAL ADULT AND INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION SUMMIT

The 2013 National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit was held May 14-16, 2013 in Atlanta, GA. All the presentation slides have been posted <u>online</u>. Flu topics included vaccination coverage in 2012-13, updates on vaccine effectiveness, and communication strategies for the upcoming 2013-14 season.